

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY

Poland

REPORT

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TOPIC Polish WOP and Border Guard Units in the Neisse Sector Southeast of Forst

EVALUATION

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PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 8 June 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to late September 1952, a WOP (border guard) headquarters, whose district included the towns indicated below and the Polish sector of the town of Forst (O 52/A 77), was located in several buildings in Teuplitz (O 52/A 96). The billets of the headquarters were marked by a signboard which read "Komenda Wojskowa Rejonowa WOP" (WOP Military District Headquarters). A WOP unit of two officers and about 80 men was located in a building on ul. Graniczna in Lugnitz (O 52/A 84). A WOP detail of about 60 men was in billets on the west side of the road to Triebel (O 52/A 86), opposite the Gross Saerchen (O 52/A 85) railroad station. A WOP detachment of about 80 men was stationed at Triebel. All security missions in the border area west of Teuplitz were executed by the UB (Security Police) District Office in Sorau (O 52/B 16).
2. The area between the autobahn bridge over the Neisse River northwest of Triebel and the town of Birkfaehre (Wendisch Mista, O 52/A 94), southeast of Lugnitz, was equipped with a continuous wire entanglement, which, with an interruption between Koebeln and the area of the southern perimeter of Gross Saerchen, extended along the Neisse River from Birkfaehre as far as the area south of Koebeln (O 52/A 85) and from the southern perimeter of Gross Saerchen continued to the northeast over another 1.5 km. Large portions of this entanglement were completed by early October 1952. The area between Gross Saerchen and the autobahn bridge had no wire entanglement. A watchtower, which had a machine gun and a revolving searchlight and was permanently occupied by a double sentry, was at the road directly southeast of Lugnitz, about 200 meters from the Neisse River. The steeple at Gross Saerchen served as an observation post but had no machine guns or searchlights. Two other watchtowers were at the autobahn bridge over the Neisse River on both sides of the autobahn. The reconstruction of the autobahn bridge was under way in the fall of 1952.

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3. Counting from the interior of the country toward the Neisse River the border entanglement in the area 3 km east-southeast of Lugnitz on 15 October 1952 included, first, a ploughed and raked strip of terrain, 5 meters wide; then a terrain, about 10 meters wide, which was grown over with miscellaneous weeds and was bounded in the direction of the Neisse River by an uncharged signal wire, about 25 cm above the ground; then a strip of terrain, 5 meters wide, which was used as a sentries' way by the WOP patrols passing by at intervals of about 20 minutes and then a dense wire entanglement, about 2 meters high and about 4 meters wide followed by another strip of open terrain, about 30 meters wide, which extended from the wire entanglement as far as the east bank of the Neisse River.

4. The border zone from the Neisse River toward the interior of the country had an average width of 10 km. Boards warning "Caution. You are entering the border area, off limits to unauthorized personnel." were on all roads and ways at the beginning of the border zone and the railroad stations.

25X1 The entire border sector included no border fortifications such as  
25X1 bunkers, communication trenches, foxholes or shelters. [redacted]  
25X1 [redacted] the WOP patrols had only a limited number of dogs, which they  
employed only in specific cases.

25X1 5. In early March 1952, [redacted] a so-called  
Main Komendatura of the WOP was allegedly stationed at Teuplitz. [redacted]  
25X1 [redacted] at the northern exit of Gross Saerchen, west of the railroad  
25X1 line, a WOP detachment of about platoon size. [redacted] was equipped with  
two motorcycles and some horses and was accommodated in a villa.

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